

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE**

**APRIL 17, 2007**

While major efforts are being made to curb the rate of HIV/AIDS infection within our communities, new infections stubbornly persist and among the venues raising the most concern are our correctional facilities.

In the United States, seventeen percent of people living with HIV/AIDS have spent time in the U.S. correctional system, and among those with a history of incarceration the prevalence rate of AIDS is six times higher than in the general public. Incarcerated persons are characterized by disproportionate rates of poverty, injection drug use, high-risk sexual activity, and poor access to preventive and primary health care. Despite efforts by our public health and correctional systems to prevent these behaviors, we must acknowledge that a significant proportion of people entering correctional facilities will continue to engage in high-risk activities while incarcerated and subsequent to their release.

Of the 45,000 parolees and probationers who attempt to create new lives for themselves each year in Los Angeles County, a higher than average proportion will be HIV positive, knowingly or unknowingly. For those who do not know their HIV status,

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**APRIL 17, 2007**  
**PAGE TWO**

they may represent a serious public health threat for the community and for those people with whom they may have high-risk contact. For those who do know that they are HIV-positive, it is imperative that they have access to a continuum of care to treat their illness and the skills and resources to prevent new HIV transmissions.

**I, THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Instruct the Chief Administrative Office's Intergovernmental Relations Branch to work with the County's legislative delegation as appropriate to further the following legislative goals:

1. Support proposals to promote HIV/AIDS policy consistent with accepted public health standards; and
2. Support legislation which provides funding for increased availability of and access to routine HIV screening, education, outreach, care and treatment, including in Federal, State, and local correctional facilities and incarceration settings.

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